

## OPERATORS MEET WORKERS FRIDAY

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A reply by the executive council to the statement issued last night by Attorney General Palmer. There were few reports as to the return of the miners to work and it was realized that there would be considerable confusion until the legal points had been cleared up and Lewis' cancellation order had reached all districts.

Some labor officials were doubtful if the miners as a whole would go back to work before adoption of a new wage program. It was because of this uncertainty that Secretary Wilson and Mr. Brewster entered immediately on their task.

**Hurry Agreement.**

Every effort will be made to reach a speedy agreement at the joint conference, especially if miners show little disposition meanwhile to return to work.

The meetings will not be public. All of the former demands, including the five-day week, the six-hour day and a 60 per cent wage increase will be wiped from the slate and a new start made.

Meanwhile, with the strike officially declared off, the important task, as both sides see it, is to get coal production back to normal. If any considerable number of miners are holding out when the scale committee assemblies, it is probable that the first step will be issuance of an appeal for immediate and whole-hearted work in all the soft coal fields of the country.

**INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Nov. 11.**—The way for the final adjustment of the controversy between the bituminous coal operators and the United Mine Workers of America, which resulted in a strike of 425,000 union miners and action by the gov-

ernment in the federal court, appeared in sight tonight.

While the miners' representatives, who earlier in the day had agreed to comply with the mandate of United States District Judge A. H. Anderson and state judges' order rescinding the strike, were discussing the future policy of the operators, telegrams were received from Secretary of Labor Wilson and Thomas T. Brewster, chairman of the operators' scale committee, by John I. Lewis, acting president of the miners, inviting the miners' representatives into a conference.

**Accepts Wilson's Invitation.**

Mr. Lewis accepted the invitation of Secretary Wilson to meet the bituminous operators of the country in Washington Friday at 11 a. m. and replied to Mr. Brewster, who requested a meeting of the central competitive scale committee with the operators of the district in Washington Monday, November 17, "to negotiate a contract to be in force upon the termination of the contract now in effect" that the miners already had accepted the invitation of Mr. Wilson.

In commenting on the telegram from Mr. Brewster, Ellis Searles, editor of the United Mine Workers Journal, and other officials of the organization who were under the impression that Mr. Brewster's message was sent after he had received Secretary Wilson's invitation, declared they saw in the operators' offer a deliberate attempt to entrap the miners into a tacit acknowledgment that the Washington wage agreement was still in force. The miners have contended throughout the controversy that the wage contract has expired.

After the general committee which went into session at 2 o'clock today as a policy committee had decided to accept the invitation of Secretary Wilson and refuse that of Mr. Brewster, the committee adjourned at 5 o'clock.

**All Officers Attend.**

William Green, secretary-treas-

urer of the union, explained that every district in the United States would be represented at the conference Friday. The miners who will attend the meeting will include the international officers, district presidents or who, ever, the districts choose to send, members of the executive board and of the scale committee.

Although the strike has been called off, court action in the case has not been completed. Miners' attorneys are completing their writ of error with a view to appealing the case to the United States circuit court of appeals and expect to file their petition within the next two or three days.

From the standpoint of the government the miners are not absolved from further obedience to the court's injunction, through withdrawal of the strike order and unless the case is dismissed, injunction will serve on more than 60 of the United Mine Workers' officials are returnable before December 2.

Patience devotion in the government and American ideals and an embargo caused the United Mine Workers of America to comply with the order of the United States court to withdraw the strike order, and

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